

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for determining the cost of a content object having a plurality of content entities, comprising the steps of:

~~Determining~~ determining a content count for the content object; and

~~Determining~~ determining from the content count a price for the content object.

2. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining a content count further comprises the steps of determining a content count for each content entity, and summing the entity content counts to obtain a content count for the content object.

3. (original): The method of claim 2, wherein the step of obtaining a content count for entities containing characters further comprises the step of determining a character count for the entity.

4. (original): The method of claim 3, wherein the step of obtaining a content count further comprises the step of determining a page count from the character count.

5. (currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein the step of obtaining a character count further comprises at least one of:

~~The step of~~ counting the number of content characters in the content entity; and

~~The step of~~ determining the content entity type, and determining an average character count for content entities of that type.

6. (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the step of determining a content object price further comprises multiplying the page count with a predetermined price per page value.

7. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the content entities comprises user-provided content, and wherein determining a price for the content object further comprises the steps of separately determining a price for user provided content and summing it with the price determined for the remaining content entities of the content object.

8. (currently amended): The method of claim 7, wherein the price for user-provided material is determined in a first manner if the content count exceeds a predefined content count maximum, and is determined in a second manner ~~of~~if the content count does not exceed the predefined maximum.

9. (currently amended): A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for determining the cost of a content object having a plurality of content entities, comprising the steps of:

~~Determining~~determining a content count for the content object; and

~~Determining~~determining from the content count a price for the content object.

10. (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the step of determining a content count further comprises the steps of determining a content count for each content entity, and summing the entity content counts to obtain a content count for the content object.

11. (original): The method of claim 10, wherein the step of obtaining a content count for entities containing characters further comprises the step of determining a character count for the entity.

12. (original): The method of claim 11, wherein the step of obtaining a content count further comprises the step of determining a page count from the character count.

13. (currently amended): The method of claim 11, wherein the step of obtaining a character count further comprises at least one of:

~~The step of counting the number of content characters in the content entity; and~~

~~The step of Determining-determining the content entity type, and determining an average character count for content entities of that type.~~

14. (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the step of determining a content object price further comprises the step of multiplying the page count with a predetermined price per page value.

15. (original): The method of claim 9, wherein at least one of the content entities comprises user-provided content, and wherein the step of determining a price for the content object further comprises the steps of separately determining a price for user provided content and summing it with the price determined for the remaining content entities of the content object.

16. (original): The method of claim 15, wherein the price for user-provided material is determined in a first manner if the content count exceeds a predefined content count maximum, and is determined in a second manner if the content count does not exceed the predefined maximum.

17. (currently amended): A system for determining the cost of a content object having a plurality of content entities, comprising:

~~Means~~means for determining a content count for the content object; and

~~Means~~means for determining a price for the content object from the content count.

18. (original): The system of claim 17, wherein the means for determining a content count further comprises means for determining a content count for each content entity, and means for summing the entity content counts to obtain a content count for the content object.

19. (original): The system of claim 18, wherein the means for obtaining a content count for entities containing characters further comprises means for determining a character count for the entity.

20. (original): The system of claim 19, wherein the means for obtaining a content count further comprises means for determining a page count from the character count.

21. (original): The system of claim 19, wherein the means for obtaining a character count further comprises at least one of a) means for counting the number of content characters in the content entity; and b) means for determining the content entity type, and means for determining an average character count for content entities of that type.

22. (original): The system of claim 20, wherein the means for determining a content object price further comprises means for multiplying the page count with a predetermined price per page value.

23. (original): The system of claim 17, wherein at least one of the content entities comprises user-provided content, and wherein the means for determining a price for the content object further comprises means for separately determining a price for user provided content and

means for summing the separately determined price with the price determined for the remaining content entities of the content object.

24. (currently amended): The system of claim 23, wherein the price for user-provided material is determined in a first manner if the content count exceeds a predefined content count maximum, and is ~~determined~~ determined in a second manner ~~of if the content count~~ if the content count does not exceed the predefined maximum.

25. (new): A method for determining the cost of a content object having a plurality of content entities according to claim 1, wherein said content object comprises an electronic book created by a user and wherein said electronic book comprises a plurality of content entities selected by the user.

26. (new): A program storage device readable by a machine according to claim 9, wherein said content object comprises an electronic book created by a user and wherein said electronic book comprises a plurality of content entities selected by the user.

27. (new): A system for determining the cost of a content object having a plurality of content entities according to claim 17, wherein said content object comprises an electronic book created by a user and wherein said electronic book comprises a plurality of content entities selected by the user.